

CALIFORNIA STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

WALTER M. DICKIE, M.D., Director

Weekly Bulletin



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GUY P. JONES
EDITOR

Trichinosis Unduly Prevalent

During the four weeks ending January 11, 1930, 72 cases of trichinosis were reported to the State Department of Public Health. All of these cases were due to the eating of undercooked sausage. The regulations of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the United States Department of Agriculture provide for the use of three curing methods for sausage, any one of which may be effective in the destruction of the causative factor in trichinosis. An alternative method of preparation of sausage may be employed, by which the pork or the article of which it is an ingredient is subjected to refrigeration for not less than 20 days at a temperature not higher than 5 degrees F. In past years nearly all cases of trichinosis that have occurred in California have been traced to the consumption of raw home-made sausage over which the authorities have no control. The appearance of this disease in persons who have eaten commercially packed sausage indicates the necessity for the strict enforcement of the federal regulations, together with the widespread dissemination of information relative to the need for always cooking all pork products thoroughly before eating.

The curing methods as outlined in the regulations of the Bureau of Animal Industry, United States Department of Agriculture, read as follows:

Curing Methods—Sausage

Method No. 1. The sausage meat shall be ground or chopped into pieces not exceeding three-fourths of an inch in diameter. A dry-curing mixture containing not less than 3½ pounds of salt to each hundredweight of the unstuffed sausage shall be thoroughly mixed with the ground or chopped meat.

After stuffing, the sausage shall be held in a drying room not less than 20 days at a temperature not lower than 45 degrees F., provided that in the case of sausage of the variety known as pepperoni, if stuffed in hog or sheep casings not exceeding 1½ inches in diameter measured at the time of stuffing, the period of drying may be reduced to 15 days.

Method No. 2. The sausage meat shall be ground or chopped into pieces not exceeding three-fourths of an inch in diameter. A dry-curing mixture containing not less than 3½ pounds of salt to each hundredweight of the unstuffed sausage shall be thoroughly mixed with the ground or chopped meat. After stuffing, the sausage shall be smoked not less than 40 hours at a temperature not lower than 80 degrees F., and finally held in a drying room for a period of not less than 10 days at a temperature not lower than 45 degrees F.

Method No. 3. The sausage meat shall be ground or chopped into pieces not exceeding three-fourths of an inch in diameter. A dry-curing mixture containing not less than 3½ pounds of salt to each hundredweight of the unstuffed sausage shall be thoroughly mixed with the ground or chopped meat. After admixture with the salt and other curing materials, and before stuffing, the ground or chopped sausage meat shall be held at a temperature not lower than 34 degrees F. for not less than 36 hours. After stuffing, the sausage shall be held at a temperature not lower than 34 degrees F. for an additional period of time sufficient to make a total of not less than 144 hours, or 6 days, from the time the meat was ground or chopped and the curing materials added. Finally, the sausage shall be smoked for not less than 12 hours. The minimum temperature of the smokehouse during this period at no time shall be lower than 90 degrees F.; and for 4 consecutive hours of this period the smokehouse shall be maintained at a temperature not lower than 128 degrees F. The temperature of 128 degrees F. shall be attained gradually, not less than 4 hours being occupied in raising the temperature, after the sausage has been placed in the smokehouse, from 90 degrees to 128 degrees F. The smokehouse shall be provided with an automatic recording thermometer that has the approval of the inspector in charge. Inspectors in charge are authorized to approve for use in sausage smokehouses such automatic recording thermometers as are found to give satisfactory service and during such time as they continue to give satisfactory service. Close supervision should be exercised over these thermometers, in order that there may be no question as to their accuracy at any time. They should be compared at frequent intervals with ther-

mometers of known reliability. Whenever it is found that a thermometer reads higher than the actual temperature, that its clockwork runs too fast, that it fails to give a legible record, or that it has any other important defect, its use is to be discontinued until it has been satisfactorily adjusted. In locating these thermometers precautions should be taken to place them in the coolest portion of the smokehouse, in order that there may be no doubt that all of the sausages have been exposed to the required temperature.

Refrigeration Method

As an alternative to the methods prescribed above any customary method of preparation may be employed provided the pork or the article of which it is an ingredient is subjected to refrigeration not less than 20 days at a temperature not higher than 5 degrees F.

During the period of refrigeration the pork shall be kept separate from other meat in rooms or compartment equipped for secure locking and be held under bureau lock. At such other times until the articles containing such pork are prepared in their final form the pork and articles shall be under close supervision.

It is essential that inspectors be assured by their own observations and records that the required temperature is maintained for the period of time specified. The thermometers used for indicating temperatures shall be placed in the freezers at or above the highest level at which the pork under refrigeration is stored. The establishment records of temperatures shall be checked and independent readings of the thermometers made and recorded by inspectors sufficiently often to make sure that the required temperature is maintained. The accuracy of the establishment thermometers shall be insured by comparison with standardized thermometers provided by the bureau.

If, after pork has been refrigerated as above specified, it is desired to transfer it to another official establishment at the same or at a different station for use in the preparation of articles (such as summer sausage) of a kind prepared customarily to be eaten without cooking, the product shall be transferred either in closed containers or else in cars or wagons containing no other meat. Closed containers, such as boxes, should be carefully sealed with Brook's metal numbered seals, and such containers as tierces, barrels, and kegs shall be sealed with sealing wax impressed with the No. 3 bureau brand, in accordance with the instructions in Service and Regulatory Announcements for October, 1914, page 135, under the caption "Sealing boxes, barrels, etc., containing certain meats." Cars and wagons used for transferring such product, if it is not in closed and sealed containers, shall be sealed with the regular bureau self-locking seals. When containers, such as boxes, barrels, etc., are used they shall not only be sealed but shall be plainly and conspicuously marked with a label or stencil furnished by the establishment reading as follows: "Pork Product 5 degrees 20 Days Refrigeration." For each consignment there shall be promptly issued and forwarded to the inspector in charge at destination a copy of M. I. Form 109-F or M. I. Form 109-C, appropriately changed to show the character of the container and that the contents are "Pork product 5 degrees 20 days' refrigeration." When the M. I. Form 109-F is issued, the duplicate copy should be forwarded to the Washington office.

Upon arrival at destination such consignments shall be unloaded and handled under bureau supervision and be kept separate from other meats and under close supervision as above indicated until the articles containing the pork are prepared in their final form.

Satisfactory rooms or compartments for refrigerating may be furnished by complete and secure separation of portions of freezers by the use of woven wire.

Each official station shall maintain for each establishment a record of the amount of pork by cuts or weight so refrigerated and in the course of preparation, as well as that shipped to and received from other official establishments, and a record of the bureau seals used.

Modern life is concerned chiefly with immediate results; thinking is subordinated to doing.—*Everett Dean Martin.*

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION CONVENES

The Northern California Public Health Association held its annual meeting at Stanford University, January 11, 1930. Members of the association assembled in the offices of the Palo Alto Health Department early in the afternoon, where the excellent equipment and methods used by Louis Olsen, health officer, were carefully inspected. Later in the afternoon the members assembled in the Board of Athletic Control Building on the Stanford University Campus, where Drs. Walter H. Brown, Thomas A. Storey and Harry Beal Torrey explained the workings of the student health service. The three new swimming pools were objects of great interest, for they have been constructed and are maintained according to the most modern methods. The importance of the maintenance of student health is stressed at Stanford University and the work of the individual student in athletics and in personal hygiene are regarded as of equal importance with academic work in the university. A special organ recital was given in the university chapel just before the dinner, which was served in the Stanford Union. Dr. John J. Sippy, health officer of the San Joaquin Health District at Stockton, and president of the Northern California Public Health Association, presided. Dr. Thomas A. Storey, general director, School of Hygiene and Physical Education for Men, gave the address of welcome. Dr. Wm. C. Hassler, health officer of San Francisco, gave a report of the meeting of the Western Branch of the American Public Health Association, held in Minneapolis last October.

On the scientific program, Mrs. Anna L. Saylor, of the State Department of Social Welfare, presented a paper entitled "How California Cares for Its Mal-Adjusted and Handicapped." Miss Mary E. Davis, supervising nurse, Bureau of Child Hygiene, State Department of Public Health, presented a paper entitled "Public Health Nursing in California." Dr. Karl F. Meyer, director of the Hooper Foundation for Medical Research, talked most interestingly upon "Observations in Europe on Diagnosis and Treatment of Communicable Diseases."

The following officers were elected for the year 1930: Adelaide Brown, M.D., San Francisco, member of the State Board of Public Health, president; Guy Millberry, D.D.S., dean of the University of California College of Dentistry, vice president; Dr. Thomas A. Storey, general director, School of Hygiene and Physical Education for Men, Stanford University, first vice president; Dr. K. F. Meyer, San Francisco, director of the Hooper Foundation for Medical Research, second vice president; Mary E.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN SPOTTED FEVER VACCINE AVAILABLE

Dr. R. R. Parker, special expert, in charge of the U. S. P. H. S. Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever Laboratory at Hamilton, Montana, advises that Rocky Mountain spotted fever vaccine for 1930 will be available for distribution from that laboratory shortly after February 1. The same plan of distribution will be followed as during previous years, namely, the vaccine will be forwarded directly to physicians upon application. The amount available will likely be considerably greater than heretofore.

1. The vaccine is furnished to physicians without charge and it is hoped that any charge for administration will be nominal.

2. Requests for vaccine should be addressed to the Officer in Charge, U. S. Public Health Service, Hamilton, Mont., and should specify the number of persons for whom vaccine is required.

3. It is desired to make the vaccine available to all who wish to take it. However, it is expensive to manufacture, and although it is expected that vaccine can be supplied in any amount likely to be required, at the same time it is desired to avoid wastage. Physicians are likely to base requests on the amount used in the year just past. This is not a reliable index since experience has shown that local demand in most instances is in direct proportion to the local prevalence of cases, which is a variable factor. Therefore, in order that the most advantageous distribution of the vaccine may be made it is suggested that requests be conservative, and repeated several times if necessary, in order that physicians may not find themselves with considerable amounts of unused vaccine at the end of the season as has sometimes happened, especially in 1929. Requests can usually be filled the same day as received, and if wired in there will be but a short delay in receiving the vaccine.

4. Full directions for administering the vaccine accompany each lot forwarded.

5. It is earnestly requested that the Hamilton Laboratory be informed of any case of spotted fever occurring in a vaccinated person and that the attending physician keep as detailed records of the case as circumstances permit. Information by wire is desired if possible, so that, if feasible, a representative of the Hamilton station may visit the case concerned.

Davis, R.N., San Francisco, supervising nurse, Bureau of Child Hygiene, State Department of Public Health, treasurer; and Dr. Walter H. Brown, School of Hygiene and Physical Education for Men, Stanford University, secretary.

N. C. P. H. A. REVERES MEMORY OF DR. F. W. BROWNING

The Northern California Public Health Association paid its respects to the late Fred William Browning, M.D., in the following resolutions passed at its annual meeting at Stanford University, January 11, 1930:

Whereas, In the last hours of the dying year, death came to Fred William Browning, M.D., an active member of this association, city health officer of Hayward for almost a quarter of a century, secretary of the Health Officers' Section of the League of California Municipalities for a full score of years; and

Whereas, Dr. Browning, through his long years of faithful service in the practical demonstration of high ideals in the advancement of the public health, has provided an inspiration to all workers in public welfare; and

Whereas, His own community, the state, and the public health organizations of California are richer through his devotion to the public health and his zeal in its promotion; therefore be

Resolved, That the Northern California Public Health Association make this formal recognition of its esteem for Dr. Browning and of the principles for which he stood; and therefore be it further

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of the association and that a copy be sent to Dr. Browning's family.

DR. CLEMENS IS HEALTH OFFICER OF HAYWARD

Nelson E. Clemens, D.V.M., has been appointed City Health Officer of Hayward, to succeed the late Dr. Fred William Browning. Dr. Clemens has been connected with the Hayward Health Department for many years. He has maintained the milk inspection service and has achieved marked results in his work.

Dr. A. M. Gregory has been appointed health officer of Mariposa County. Dr. Gregory resides at Mariposa.

Dr. Hartley G. Dewey is now local health officer at Yosemite.

MORBIDITY *

Diphtheria.

60 cases of diphtheria have been reported, as follows: Alameda County 1, Alameda 2, Oakland 4, El Centro 1, Lakeport 1, Los Angeles County 6, Burbank 3, Los Angeles 18, Santa Monica 1, Merced County 1, Orange County 1, Orange 2, La Habra 1, Tustin 1, Sacramento County 1, Sacramento 4, Needles 1, San Francisco 9, San Jose 1, Porterville 1.

Scarlet Fever.

299 cases of scarlet fever have been reported, as follows: Alameda County 1, Alameda 1, Berkeley 3, Oakland 17, Oroville 2, Colusa County 2, Contra Costa County 1, Fresno County 9, Fresno 6, Reedley 1, Eureka 7, Kern County 7, Bakersfield 3, Lassen County 2, Los Angeles County 9, Culver City 1, Glendale 4, Hermosa 1, Huntington Park 1, Long Beach 10, Los Angeles 73, Monrovia 1, Montebello 4, Pasadena 1, San Gabriel 1, Santa Monica 9, South Gate 2, Monterey Park 1, Maywood 5, Madera 1, Marin County 1, Merced County 1, Los Banos 1, Salinas 5, Orange County 5, Sacramento County 2, Sacramento 13, North Sacramento 1, Colton 1, Escondido 9, San Diego 6, San Francisco 16, San Joaquin County 6, Manteca 3, Stockton 3, San Luis Obispo County 6, Arroyo Grande 1, Burlingame 2, Redwood City 2, San Mateo 4, Santa Clara County 3, Los Gatos 1,

* From reports received on January 13th and 14th for week ending January 11th.

Palo Alto 1, San Jose 2, Watsonville 1, Petaluma 1, Stanislaus County 1, Yuba City 1, Red Bluff 2, Tulare County 7, Lindsay 1, Oxnard 1, Santa Paula 1, Davis 2.

Measles.

442 cases of measles have been reported, as follows: Alameda County 2, Alameda 30, Berkeley 12, Oakland 27, Contra Costa County 1, Pittsburg 1, Richmond 4, Fresno County 1, Fresno 1, Humboldt County 2, Kings County 3, Los Angeles County 29, Burbank 1, Hermosa 2, Huntington Park 1, Long Beach 1, Los Angeles 9, Pasadena 1, Signal Hill 1, Madera County 1, Marin County 2, Mill Valley 1, San Rafael 1, Fort Bragg 117, Merced County 2, Modoc County 1, Lincoln 1, Riverside 3, Sacramento County 16, Sacramento 3, San Francisco 103, San Joaquin County 3, Lodi 1, Burlingame 1, Daly City 1, Redwood City 1, San Mateo 1, Menlo Park 1, Santa Clara County 1, Palo Alto 3, San Jose 49.

Smallpox.

77 cases of smallpox have been reported, as follows: Alameda 5, Oakland 8, El Centro 3, Los Angeles County 2, Long Beach 1, Los Angeles 6, Maywood 8, Nevada County 1, Orange County 1, Roseville 2, Sacramento 8, Redlands 12, San Francisco 3, Stockton 1, San Luis Obispo County 1, Santa Clara County 4, San Jose 1, Stanislaus County 10.

Typhoid Fever.

7 cases of typhoid fever have been reported, as follows: Fresno 1, Los Angeles 2, Whittier 1, Tulare County 1, California 2.**

** Cases charged to "California" represent patients ill before entering the state or those who contracted their illness traveling about the state throughout the incubation period of the disease. These cases are not chargeable to any one locality.

Whooping Cough.

126 cases of whooping cough have been reported, as follows: Berkeley 2, Oakland 2, Pittsburg 1, Sanger 1, Orland 1, Kern County 1, Kings County 2, Hanford 4, Los Angeles County 10, Avalon 5, Burbank 1, Compton 9, Glendale 3, Inglewood 2, Long Beach 24, Los Angeles 19, Pasadena 2, Santa Monica 3, Madera County 4, Orange County 6, Huntington Beach 2, Santa Ana 7, San Diego 4, San Francisco 3, San Joaquin County 1, Sierra County 2, Solano County 1, Vacaville 2, Tulare County 2.

Meningitis (Epidemic).

11 cases of epidemic meningitis have been reported, as follows: Alameda 1, Martinez 1, Long Beach 3, Los Angeles 2, Merced County 1, San Francisco 2, Fairfield 1.

Poliomyelitis.

3 cases of poliomyelitis have been reported, as follows: El Monte 1, Los Angeles 1, San Francisco 1.

Encephalitis (Epidemic).

San Francisco reported one case of epidemic encephalitis.

Undulant Fever.

Glendale reported one case of undulant fever.

Trichinosis.

32 cases of trichinosis have been reported, as follows: Alameda 8, San Francisco 24.

Jaundice (Epidemic).

3 cases of epidemic jaundice have been reported, as follows: Los Angeles County 1, Whittier 2.


Food Poisoning.


Los Angeles reported 9 cases of food poisoning.


COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORTS


| Disease | 1929-1930 | | | | 1928-1929 | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|---------|--------|---|-------------|---------|--------|---|
| | Week ending | | | Reports for week ending Jan. 11 received by Jan. 14 | Week ending | | | Reports for week ending Jan. 12 received by Jan. 15 |
| | Dec. 21 | Dec. 28 | Jan. 4 | | Dec. 22 | Dec. 29 | Jan. 5 | |
| Botulism | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Chickenpox | 243 | 252 | 305 | 465 | 125 | 110 | 185 | 321 |
| Coccidioidal Granuloma | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Diphtheria | 93 | 81 | 91 | 60 | 92 | 58 | 54 | 61 |
| Dysentery (Amoebic) | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Dysentery (Bacillary) | 1 | 8 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Encephalitis (Epidemic) | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| Erysipelas | 13 | 16 | 17 | 21 | 14 | 11 | 18 | 15 |
| Food Poisoning | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| German Measles | 9 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 1 | 7 | 9 | 13 |
| Gonococcus Infection | 114 | 59 | 98 | 137 | 81 | 70 | 99 | 125 |
| Influenza | 43 | 41 | 54 | 76 | 3,141 | 1,590 | 1,365 | 976 |
| Jaundice (Epidemic) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Leprosy | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Malaria | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 5 |
| Measles | 240 | 239 | 190 | 442 | 19 | 19 | 22 | 26 |
| Meningitis (Epidemic) | 12 | 18 | 12 | 11 | 12 | 14 | 10 | 19 |
| Mumps | 287 | 240 | 347 | 399 | 139 | 98 | 157 | 253 |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Paratyphoid Fever | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Pellagra | 0 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| Pneumonia (Lobar) | 68 | 65 | 98 | 114 | 131 | 93 | 94 | 81 |
| Poliomyelitis | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Rabies (Animal) | 18 | 9 | 14 | 5 | 19 | 51 | 13 | 11 |
| Scarlet Fever | 268 | 234 | 280 | 299 | 184 | 151 | 195 | 264 |
| Smallpox | 50 | 98 | 56 | 77 | 18 | 21 | 13 | 37 |
| Syphilis | 153 | 99 | 107 | 177 | 113 | 89 | 128 | 188 |
| Tetanus | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Trachoma | 1 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Trichinosis | 3 | 20 | 17 | 32 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Tuberculosis | 176 | 151 | 187 | 200 | 217 | 145 | 186 | 222 |
| Typhoid Fever | 9 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 12 | 6 | 1 |
| Undulant Fever | 1 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Whooping Cough | 83 | 50 | 73 | 126 | 75 | 71 | 154 | 201 |
| Totals | 1,899 | 1,709 | 1,972 | 2,682 | 4,401 | 2,617 | 2,717 | 2,829 |


CALIFORNIA STATE PRINTING OFFICE


The status of epidemic meningitis is not reassuring.


Mumps and measles are spurring upward.


Trichinosis jumped to a new high last week.


Influenza increased its prevalence last week.


Three cases of epidemic jaundice were reported.

